

Ebola in the US:

Update for Wyoming Healthcare Providers

Wyoming Department of Health
October 1, 2014

On September 30th, 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the first Ebola case ever diagnosed in the U.S. This person:

- Traveled from West Africa to Dallas, TX on September 20th.
- Developed symptoms on September 24th.
- Presented to care on September 26th, but was discharged and remained in the community for two more days. It is unclear at this time whether a travel history was taken at that encounter.
- On September 28th the patient was admitted to the hospital, placed in isolation, and tested for Ebola.
- The patient was infectious to persons having close contact during the time symptoms were present and before being hospitalized (September 24 to September 28).

Hospitals and healthcare providers in Wyoming should have plans in place should a patient with a history of travel to outbreak-affected countries in Africa present with symptoms suggestive of Ebola. Each hospital needs to be prepared to treat a suspected patient and to take appropriate control measures, even if the patient's clinical condition ultimately warrants transfer to a tertiary care facility.

For information on symptoms of Ebola infection, Ebola virus transmission, infection control measures, and specimen collection procedures, please refer to the Wyoming Department of Health Health Alert Notice (HAN) sent out on August 5th and the CDC website, www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola

For questions, please contact Dr. Alexia Harrist at the Wyoming Department of Health 307-777-5532 or alexia.harrist@wyo.gov. After hours you may call the WDH 24/7 line at 1-888-996-9104.